

SB 1090 (Cedillo, Chapter 514, Statutes of 2010) – Remote Caller Bingo

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The California Constitution allows the Legislature, by statute, to authorize cities and counties to provide for bingo games for charitable purposes. The California Remote Caller Bingo Act permits cities and counties to allow remote caller bingo games, as defined, to be conducted by specified organizations, including an organization that is exempt from the payment of the Bank and Corporation Tax under certain provisions, for charitable purposes pursuant to a local ordinance that allows those games to be conducted only in accordance with specified requirements. The act sets forth a model ordinance for a city, county, or city and county to authorize remote caller bingo, and prohibits an organization from conducting remote caller bingo more than one day per week.

SB 1090 allows charitable organizations to conduct remote caller bingo games up to two days per week, instead of one day per week. The bill also makes technical changes to correct obsolete law references and correct the categories of tax exempt organizations listed in the model local ordinance that can be adopted by local jurisdictions to authorize remote caller bingo. The bill provides additional flexibility in the model local ordinance for local jurisdictions to verify the tax exempt status of organizations applying for a license to operate a bingo game. Specifically, the bill allows the local License Official to refer to the Franchise Tax Board's Internet Web site to verify the at the applicant is exempt from the payment of taxes imposed under the Corporation Tax Law, in lieu of a certificate issued by the Franchise Tax Board certifying that the applicant is exempt from the payment of taxes imposed under the Corporation and Tax Law.

Note: While this provision does not directly impact the Commission, the Commission will accept information submitted by applicants from the Franchise Tax Board's Internet Web site: http://www.ftb.ca.gov/businesses/Exempt_organizations/Entity_list.shtml to verify that an organization is tax exempt pursuant to Penal Code Section 326.3(b).